



ABOUT WARD 4

Tucson's Ward 4 is represented by Council Member Shirley C. Scott. Shirley has represented the Ward since 1995 and is honored to continue serving the constituents of Ward 4 and the City of Tucson.

In the Know

Tax Season

The VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Program offers free tax preparation to low- and moderate-income families and individuals throughout Tucson and Arizona. VITA ensures that families and individuals receive all tax benefits for which they are eligible, most importantly the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which has been recognized as the single most powerful tool to lift children out of poverty.



For more information and locations, please visit

http://www.unitedwaytucson.org/sites/unitedwaytucson.org/files/VITA_Brochure%20Final_1.pdf.

IRS Scam



The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA), which oversees the IRS, has received reports of 290,000 scam calls since October 2013 and said nearly 3,000 victims have been swindled out of \$14 million so far.

Often leaving messages that say it's "urgent" you call them back, the scammers use common names and sometimes say they are from the IRS Criminal Division. They may even claim to know the last four digits of your Social Security number and send follow-up emails that appear to be from the IRS. If you get what you suspect is a scam call, report it to TIGTA through its Web site or call 800-366-4484.

The real IRS will usually contact you by regular mail first, if they need to contact you at all. And the agency never demands immediate payment by phone or asks for credit card or debit numbers if they do call. They also never ask for personal or financial information by email, text or social media. Remember to be IRS smart, for more information on this scam and other scams check out the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Tax-Scams-Consumer-Alerts>.



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Ages 'N Stages

The fourth annual Ages 'n Stages Expo will be held this year on Saturday, February 28th, from 9am – 3pm at Casino Del Sol Resort (5655 W. Valencia Rd). This year there will be 100 exhibitors, education seminars, live demonstrations like activity and cooking, as well as entertainment. There will also be raffle drawings every hour! This Expo is open to the public and is FREE to attend! For more information on this event, please visit Pima Council on Aging's website at www.agesnstagesexpo.org.

Calling For Art

Do you look at a clear plastic bottle and think it could be art?

If so, then this upcoming art showcase might be for you!

Tucson Clean & Beautiful invites students in grades K-12 as well as college students and adults who are professional or aspiring recycled artists, to participate in the RUMBA

(Re-Used Materials Becoming Art) showcase and competition to be held at the 2015 SAHBA Spring Home & Patio Show.



K-12 student entries will be judged, with winners receiving prizes awarded following the event. All entries by adults or youth will receive a participation certificate.

Professional quality entries by adults are for display only (no sales in the RUMBA display area; business cards permitted).

To obtain a RUMBA registration form, visit

<http://www.tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org>, call (520) 791-5000 or email recycle@tucsonaz.gov. RUMBA entries may be delivered to the Tucson Convention Center, Tucson Clean & Beautiful information and art display booth on Thursday, March 26, 2015 between 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. and will be on display for three days from Friday March 27 to Sunday March 29, 2015. Entries must be picked up at closing time on Sunday, March 29, 2014 unless prior arrangements have been made.

So get out that thinking cap, get those creative juices flowing, and start working on that great recycled art piece! Maybe you can suggest it to your teacher as a fun art class project, who wouldn't rather do art instead of math! Either way, have fun!

Poster Art

If creating sculpture art is not your thing, then maybe poster art is! The City of Tucson Environmental Services Department (ES) is sponsoring the 'Look What's New with Do More Blue' Poster Contest. Tucson students in grades 4-8 are invited to create a poster that effectively and clearly highlights the importance of recycling in the City of Tucson. This contest is an opportunity for students to creatively express their understanding of recycling and waste reduction in our community and to spread that message to the residents of Tucson. In addition to winning some fun prizes, the grand prize winner will have their artwork enlarged and displayed on the sides of a Tucson collection truck. All 4th-8th grade students in City of Tucson public, private and charter schools (including home schooled students) are eligible.

Posters should clearly highlight the importance of recycling in the City of Tucson. This theme can include topics such as using the Blue Barrel, "Do More Blue," and materials accepted at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). For more information, follow this link, www.bit.ly/193dTGH. Deadline for submissions is February 20, 2015.

D-M

Approximately 1,100 Airmen have been tasked to deploy from D-M, this is more than twice the normal amount. This deployment includes: 563rd Rescue Group, 55th Electronic Combat Group, 355th Mission Support Group and the 354th Fighter Squadron, including 12 A-10 Thunderbolt aircraft. The A-10's, crews and support personnel are part of a Theater Security Package supporting Operation Atlantic Resolve out of Spangdahelm Air Base, Germany. Other personnel will deploy to a variety of other locations in support of ongoing U.S. military operations.

With so many Airmen being deployed, D-M is looking for volunteers to help out in certain areas. If you would like to volunteer, please fill out the form (found on Ward 4 Webpage, [click here](#)) and email it to bryan.hopper.1@us.af.mil. If you have any questions, please call the Airmen & Family Readiness Center at (520) 228-5690. Please note that there will be a background check done in order to gain access to the base. We wish all the Airmen a safe journey and thank you for serving our Country.

A Valentine's Gift Idea

Some people might like chocolate and roses on Valentine's Day, and other's might not even remember that it is Valentine's Day. In any case, why not just skip the usual and head down to the Los Reales Landfill and the ReCommunity, Inc. Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). Yes, that is an extremely overwhelming long name.



Participants will be provided the opportunity to get an exclusive 'behind the scenes' view and learn how the City of Tucson Environmental Services operates the landfill. Tour participants will also gain an in-depth understanding of how recyclables collected in the blue barrels are sorted and marketed.

At the Los Reales Landfill, participants see how ES handles household hazardous waste and are even able to hear how construction of the landfill cells protects groundwater. Those on the tour will also see landfill operations and learn how methane gas generated at the landfill is used as a renewable energy source to power Tucson. Very Interesting!

Tour participants will meet in the upper level parking lot at 4004 S. Park Avenue on Saturday, February 14, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. The tour will be complete by 12:15 p.m. Those who join the tour should wear long pants, closed-toe shoes, hats and sunscreen. Drinking water will be provided. A minimum of 15 participants is needed, so invite other couples to join you.

If you really want to surprise your love, book this tour in advance, they would have never guessed you were going to take them on a great educational tour of the Los Reales landfill. You for sure will get extra brownie points for this one. To reserve a seat, call Environmental Services at 791-3175 by Thursday, February 12th.

A Little Extra

The City of Tucson Parks and Recreation Department offers discounts that allow low-income residents to pay a 50% discounted fee for KIDCO, Jr. Leadership, In-Betweeners, Learn-to-Swim, and therapeutic programs. There also is a 25% discount for annual/quarterly passes at recreation centers and for a Senior Activity Card. To qualify for the discounts, you must be a City of Tucson resident, provide ID and address verification, and be able to prove your income falls within the discount guidelines. You can apply at any Parks and Recreation office. For more details on the requirements for the discounts, call Registration Services at (520) 791-4877. To find out what other fun programs are being offered by Tucson Parks & Rec, please visit their website at www.tucsonaz.gov/parks.

Committee?

What Committee you ask? The Charter Review Committee, that is. This Committee is seeking input and recommendations from the citizens of Tucson regarding these changes to the Charter.

Comments can be submitted at: cityclerk@tucsonaz.gov or mailed to: City Clerk's Office, P.O. Box 27210, Tucson, AZ 85726 or at the: Call to the Audience during the Charter Review Committee meeting. The next meeting of the Charter Review Committee is: February 19, 2015, Tucson City Hall, 1st Floor Meeting Room 255 W. Alameda Street at 4:00 p.m.

The Committee will also hold two Public Hearings on:

March 10, 2015, El Pueblo Neighborhood Center (101 W. Irvington Rd.) at 5:00 p.m.

March 12, 2015, Morris K. Udall Regional Center (7200 E. Tanque Verde Rd.) at 5:00 p.m.

Information about the Committee can be found at: <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/clerk/s/boards>.

Roadwork Update by MJ Dillard

Houghton Road: Irvington to Valencia
Project is complete.

Our contractor is on a one-year warranty for any damage within the project area, and we can have them come out and fix anything we think needs repair. We appreciate your calls letting us know where these areas are, and we will continue to address them as they come up. Any regular maintenance items, such as rocks on the road, or a dirt filled in drainage channel can be referred to our streets maintenance number, 791-3191.

Items we have had the contractor repair under warranty:

1. A large pothole that developed on the north bound lane of Houghton south of Valencia. It appears a mud flap had ended up in the asphalt as it was going down. This was removed and the asphalt was repaired on 1/19/15
2. Lighting issues at Poorman and Houghton. There was a shield in the power box that kept slipping and causing a short. This has been corrected.

Items still outstanding:

1. Report of monument lighting at Forrest Glen being out. We need to find out where the power source is for this lighting and work from there. We will be getting in touch with Mequite Ranch to find this out.
2. Report of landscape lighting out in the Civano area. This lighting was repaired at the end of construction, and our contractor informed us that Southwest Gas and Century Link have been out digging in this area since that time. They are wondering if they may have damaged the lighting. We will be contacting Civano to work on this issue.

General Stakeholder concerns:

Update on grasses/weeds: We are still working with the landscapers to resolve this issue. Some of this work is outside the scope of their establishment work, but we do have funds left over from the project to address the issue, and are continuing to work on this.

Irrigation and assessment of trees in front of Civano north of Seven Generations Way: Our landscape architect is processing the contract to get additional irrigation and replacement of damaged trees in the area. We will continue to move forward on addressing this issues.

MJ Dillard is a Project Manager for the City of Tucson. She can be reached at: (520) 837-6616
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Citizens Transportation Academy

The Pima Association of Governments (PAG) and the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) are hosting a Citizens Transportation Academy to give you a chance to learn how to get involved in transportation planning efforts. There will be three 90-minute programs, beginning March 31. This is a great chance to get involved in a community process related to transportation and we all know how important that is. Signup deadline is March 1st. To get more information or to apply please visit PAG's website at www.bit.ly/1z2gFlz.

Coming Up...

Woo at the Zoo

Sat., Feb. 14th, 5:00 - 7:00pm, Reid Park Zoo

In case your loved one isn't into recycling, you can woo your loved one or have an enjoyable evening with friends at Reid Park Zoo on Valentine's Day. Enjoy appetizers, open beer and wine bar, live music from Ronstadt Generations and meet some of our education animals. After the reception listen to humorous stories of passionate - sometimes tawdry - love in the animal kingdom. Visit the Reid Parks Zoo website at www.reidparkzoo.org.

Tucson Rodeo Parade

Thurs., Feb. 26, 9am, 705 E. Ajo Way

The "largest non-motorized parade in the country," it was selected as a Top 100 Event in North America for 2015 by the American Bus Association. To purchase grandstand tickets, find out the parade route or learn who the Grand Marshal is, go to www.tucsonrodeoparade.com.

Tucson Rodeo

Sat., Feb. 21 - March 01, Tucson Rodeo Grounds, 4823 S. Sixth Ave.

Event Location: 4823 S. Sixth Ave, Tucson, AZ 85714

The event includes the Tucson Rodeo, the largest outdoor winter rodeo in North America and also one of the top-25 professional rodeos in North America. For more information visit, www.tucsonrodeo.com.

Tucson Invitational Games Softball Tournament

Sun., March 1 - Sun., March 22, Lincoln Park, 8155 E. Poinciana Drive

COT will be hosting the 14th Annual Tucson Invitational Games. The tournament is a spring training event which started in 2002 hosting fourteen softball colleges and universities. Since the start of the program, the T.I.G has hosted over 400 schools from across the country. Contact the Tucson Invitational Games, 777-7680 for additional information or head to <http://www.tigsports.com>, or better yet, come out and watch a great game!

Call for Volunteers

The Tucson Festival of Books depends on volunteers to help run the annual event at the University of Arizona and hundreds of positions are available. This year's event is March 14-15, from 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. each day. Since its launch in 2009, the Festival has contributed more than \$1 million to local literacy organizations. Apparently we Tucsonans love to read. Take a look at their website for more information, <http://bit.ly/1BbtIJL>.



In the 411

Eastside Police Substation – 791-5700

9670 E. Golf Links

For additional information in regards to tickets or other departments within the Tucson Police Department log on to <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police>

Transportation (TDOT) - 791-4259

201 N. Stone Ave. 5th Floor.

Got a question about construction, traffic, streets, graffiti removal, landscaping, stormwater, RTA or anything along these lines? Visit <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/transportation> to get more info.

Environmental Services - 791-3171

Information on trash, recycling, landfills, brush and bulky and even neighborhood cleanups is what you can find here. They even do Hazardous Household Waste Collections. Visit <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/es> for more info.

Tucson Water - 791-4331

310 W. Alameda St.

Have questions on billing, water conservation, water quality or general service, then call the public info line or check out <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/water>

William Clements Center - 791-5787 or 791-4730

8155 E. Poinciana

There is a lot happening here! Additional information, including calendar of events, go to <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec/clements>

Miller-Golf Links Branch Library - 594-5355

9640 E. Golf Links Rd

Get info of scheduled events or what's currently happening at this library. Better yet go to www.library.pima.gov/locations/golflinks

Pima Council on Aging - 790-7262

8467 E. Broadway

This is a great place that offers programs and services to older adults and their families living in Pima County. Learn more about this great organization by going to www.pcoa.org

Code Enforcement - 791 - 5843

310 N. Commerce Park Loop

Chapter 16 and 3 fo the City Code is what they enforce. If you suspect property or housing violations within the City give them a buzz or go online for more information visit <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/pdsd/code-enforcement>

Graffiti Removal Program - 792 - 2489

If you see someone "tagging" call 911. If The graffiti is already there, then call the number above to report it. Check out <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/graffiti> for more information on removal or reporting.